

REMARKS

Claims 25-50 are pending in this Application. In this Office Action the Examiner requires Applicant to elect a single Species following to which the claims shall be restricted for not forming a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

Species I: Figures 1, 2a-2c, 3, 4a-4b and 5, claims 25-31, 34-41, and 43-50;

Species II: Figures 2d and 3, claims 25-31, 34-41, and 43-50;

Species III: Figures 6-10, claims 25-42 and 44-50;

Species IV: Figures 11a-11c, claims 25-30, 33-42, and 44-50; and

Species V: Figures 12-14, claims 25-32 and 34-50.

In reply, Applicants herein provisionally elects Species I, Figures 1, 2a-2c, 3, 4a-4b and 5, claims 25-31, 34-41, and 43-50 *with traverse*.

Applicant makes the above election with traverse based on the “some or *corresponding* special technical features” required by the PCT being the novel features of independent claim 25 that *correspond* to the novel features of independent claim 34. Since all of claims 26-33 and 35-50 respectively depend from claims 25 and 34, and since the Examiner has not demonstrated that the features of the independent claims are not known, under PCT Rule 13.1 all of the claims are linked by the novel features of claim 25, and corresponding novel features of claim 34. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the Restriction Requirement under PCT Rule 13.1 is improper.

Should the Examiner disagree with this assertion, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the then withdrawn claims 32, 33, and 42 in a related application(s) without prejudice.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed phone number regarding this Response or otherwise concerning the present application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time necessary under 37 C.F.R. §§1.136(a) or 1.136(b).

If there are any charges due with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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